

Superfund Records Center
SITE: Olin Chemical
BREAK: 2-3
OTHER: 483576

EPA Official Record

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Subject: Private Well Update

Martha -

Now that Olin has mailed the most recent private well sample results to the individual property owners (I still plan to send them letters), I want to let WERC know that NDMA has been detected in several additional private wells. These additional wells are located in the neighborhood and the northwest side of . This means that NDMA has now been detected in at least one sample from 7 of the 11 monitored private wells (4 on 1 on 1 on , and 1 on). While all this data is public, I don't want to advertise names or addresses, so information I present at public meetings or in mailing will only identify well locations by tax map and lot number. Please see the attached figure.

The new detected concentrations were very low (0.54 to 5.60 parts per trillion as compared with the 10.0 to 31.0 ppt routinely measured at the 2 known wells). No restriction on use of any of these additional wells is necessary. However, detections on the were largely unexpected and this only increases my concern that the NDMA plume is slowly spreading. I briefed the town manager and contacted the board of health, and they indicate that some additional 40+ potable and irrigation wells are located just in the area of the new detections. Olin will be sampling a subset of these wells in an iterative manner later this spring. I have also asked them to take another hard look at potential wells in north Woburn, just south of

Because of these recent detections, and the discovery of so many "new" wells within the study area, I plan to offer a local meeting for private well owners (working with the BOH) sometime next month. I want to try to stay ahead of what appears to be an emerging problem with facts on what these concentrations mean, and what EPA can do (and can not do) in a situation like this.

I expect to mail invitational letters to private well owners in the next week or 2, with the meeting following in late May/early June. While public access to this meeting will not be restricted, I would appreciate no public announcement. This meeting is intended to provide information to private well owners.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you next Monday night.

Jim



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*"Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country " - - President John F. Kennedy - -
January 20, 1961*

REDACTED